

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 3737

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, HO, US
SUBJ: ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 3731

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING MILITARY JUNTA REPLACING GENERAL JUAN ALBERTO MELGAR:

BEGIN QUOTE:

SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF THE ARMED FORCES

WHEREAS THAT IN VIEW (OF THE FACT) THAT BRIGADIER GENERAL JUAN ALBERTO MELGAR CASTRO HAS PRESENTED HIS RESIGNATION OF THE POSITION OF CHIEF OF STATE OF HONDURAS, TO WHICH HE WAS NAMED BY THIS COUNCIL ON APRIL 22, 1975.

WHEREAS THAT IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL
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OF THE ARMED FORCES TO NAME THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO WILL SUCCEED HIM IN THE EXERCISE OF OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STATE; AND MEETING IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION HAS DECIDED:

1. TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF GENERAL JUAN ALBERTO MELGAR CASTRO FROM THE POSITION OF CHIEF OF STATE.

2. TO APPOINT IN REPLACEMENT A MILITARY JUNTA OF GOVERNMENT,
WHICH WILL BE COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS:

A. THE CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES AND COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE
ARMY, BRIGADIER GENERAL POLICARPO PAZ GARCIA, AS PRESIDENT OF
SAID JUNTA.

B. THE COMMANDER OF THE HONDURAN AIR FORCE, LT. COL. DOMINGO
ANTONIO ALVAREZ CRUZ (MEMBER OF THE MILITARY JUNTA OF GOVERN-
MENT).

C. THE COMMANDER OF THE PUBLIC SECURITY FORCE, LT. COL.
AMILCAR ZELAYA RODRIGUEZ (MEMBER OF THE MILITARY JUNTA OF
GOVERNMENT).

3. THE OFFICIALS NAMED TO THE MILITARY JUNTA OF GOVERNMENT WILL
MAINTAIN THEIR COMMANDS IN THE ARMED FORCES.

4. THE ARMED FORCES REITERATE TO THE HONDURAN PUBLIC: THAT
THEY WILL CONTINUE THE POLICIES OF THEIR PROCLAMATION OF APRIL
22, 1975.

5. THE ARMED FORCES CATEGORICALLY REAFFIRM THE IRREVOCABLE
DECISION TO GUARANTEE WITH STRICT SUPPORT FOR THE LAW, THE PRO-
CESS OF CONSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE COUNTRY, WHICH HAS AL-
READY BEEN INITIATED AND WITHOUT VARYING THE ESTABLISHED DATES.

6. THE ARMED FORCES CONFIRM BEFORE THE HONDURAN PUBLIC THAT IN
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GOVERNMENT: THAT THE UNRESTRICTED RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL
TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS SIGNED BY HONDURAS WILL CONTINUE.

THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS SO THAT THE MEDIATION PROCESS
WITH THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR CONTINUES ITS NORMAL COURSE
WITHOUT INTERRUPTION OF ANY KIND.

THAT THE AGRARIAN REFORM PROCESS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ONE OF
THEIR FUNDAMENTAL GOALS.

THAT THEY WILL GUARANTEE AND SUPPORT THE SOCIAL ADVANCES OF
WORKERS OF THE CITY AND COUNTRYSIDE.

THAT THEY WILL MAINTAIN THE POLICY OF GUARANTEES TO FREE ENTER-
PRISE AS A MEANS OF DEVELOPING THE COUNTRY.

THAT FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN GENERAL WILL CON-
TINUE TO RECEIVE THEIR BEST CONSIDERATION AND RESPECT.

THAT THE PEACE AND TRANQUILITY WHICH THE REPUBLIC NOW ENJOYS
WILL BE MAINTAINED.

GIVEN IN THE MEETING HALL OF THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF THE ARMED FORCES, IN COMAYAGUELA, DISTRITO CENTRAL, ON AUGUST 7, 1978.

SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF THE ARMED FORCES.

END QUOTE.

2. FOLLOWING THE TEXT ARE THE SIGNATURES OF THE 29 MEMBERS OF THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL (SEE TEGUCIGALPA A-8) WITH GENERAL PAZ' AT THE TOP. SPANISH TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE BEING POUCHED ARA/CEN. JARAMILLO

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